in position. If desired, fabric such as Dacron may be applied to the external surface to promote tissue ingrowth.

Various other modifications and variations of the invention will become obvious to those skilled in the art from a consideration of the foregoing.

That which is claimed is:

1. A surgically implantable prosthetic joint for replacing diseased or damaged bone joints comprising:

a one-piece body of inherently flexible elastomeric, physiologically inert material;

said body having an enlarged center portion, at least said enlarged center portion of said body having a width substantially greater than its thickness to allow only substantially unidirectional bending; and

two oppositely projecting stem portions of reduced cross-sectional area, the cross-sectional dimensions of said stem portions corresponding substantially to the dimensions of the intramedullary canals of the bones adjacent said joint for implantation in the amputated ends of said bones, the width of said enlarged center portion extending laterally outwardly on both sides of said stem portions.

2. A prosthetic joint as defined in claim **1** wherein said body is silicone rubber.

3. A prosthetic joint as defined in claim **1** wherein said enlarged center portion has a concavity in the surface which is designed to be in compression during bending to reduce resistance to bending in that direction.

4. A prosthetic joint as defined in claim **3** wherein said body is silicone rubber.

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